PATENT IBM Docket No. RAL9-99-0062

REMARKS

In response to the Official Communication dated June 8, 2004, Applicants respectfully file

the amendments delivered herewith and the remarks following below in support of the patentability of the remaining claims. Claims 1 - 41 were originally presented with this application. Claims 34-36 and 37-41 were canceled from the application without prejudice and claims 1-3, 12-14, and 23-25 have been canceled herewith, also without prejudice. Claims 4-11, 15-22 and 26-33 remain in the application.

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The Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 4-11, 15-22, and 26-33 stand in condition for allowance. As this represents all of the claim remaining in the application, Applicants respectfully request early notification of allowance. In the event the Examiner feels that questions of patentability remain, the favor of a telephone call would be appreciated to the Applicants attorney at the phone number given below in an effort to resolve the issues.

Respectfully Submitted,

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